

**DPW Commission Meeting  
Wednesday, March 26, 2014  
7:00 p.m. – Police Station Community Room**

A DPW Commissioner meeting was held on Wednesday, 3/26/14 at 7pm in the Community Room at the Police Station. Chairman Gardner was not in attendance, Commissioners Sena and Reed were present.

**7:00 PM      Approval Items:**

Board of Commissioners Minutes Approval: Commissioner Reed moved to approve the minutes of the 2/26/14 DPW meeting; seconded by Commissioner Sena , Vote: 2-0.

Approval of Sale of Cemetery Lots

**7:05 PM      Open Session:**

Open for Public Discussion with the Commissioners:

T. Arsenian, 95 Granite Street, spoke on the three coastal repair projects. He said the Adhoc Water Committee met last night; he did not attend. He said the DPW will be getting a water needs assessment and then the proper decisions can be met. He questioned why the Adhoc Water Committee is needed and how it fits in. It was stated that the Moderator appointed this committee. He recommends that the DPW Commissioners discuss this with the Moderator.

He spoke on the coastal repair articles and the revetment work, mitigation superior to what was there previously. Some of it is partially revetment now. He inquired about Granite Pier.

J. Parisi said some placement of the stone will occur; it will go the complete extent of the damage. J. Parisi worked with FEMA to develop the scope of work and it makes sense.

T. Arsenian said on Back Beach, if the specifications are the same, how can the town ask residents to pay for it.

Director Parisi said the project worksheet and estimate have been developed and the funding is being requested. This is an opportunity to make it stronger. He said the design engineer and town personnel will approve the specifications, it has to be within the FEMA scope of work. Larger stones will be brought in; we need to guard against erosion.

Commissioner Sena said we put our faith in the engineers. The design was adopted by the state for Back Beach; stones were reused.

Pigeon Cove, \$4M, where do the FEMA funds go. Director Parisi said it has to pay off any short term debt, the 25% local share.

**7:15 PM      New Business:**

Weston & Sampson Presentation on Energy Efficiencies: Bill Ellis was present to review some available programs on energy efficiency and perhaps some grant opportunities as well. He said he has been in the field for over 40 years. He said there are substantial public electric accounts in town. Previously an application was submitted for a water plan (lift station to variable speed) to save some funds. They have preapproved Rockport for approximately

\$13,000. Bill Ellis said he can complete an application requesting \$100,000 from DOER by 4/16/14, but prior to the submission we must identify areas to save money. WWTP, water filtration, possibly the police station and town hall has substantial energy consumption and a couple of pump stations. It's possible to get all the lighting done for nothing. Weston and Sampson can perform an assessment to determine what the savings would be; retrofit lights, and put some other things toward the grant. \$1.5M is available now.

Another opportunity is through National Grid, they could perform an assessment of the low lift pump station for rebate credited. The HVAC units, police station, town hall, lighting retrofit; it wouldn't be 100% funded. LED retrofits save funds and some of the fixtures have a 15 to 20 year life. Weston and Sampson would put the application together, look at the biggest electricity users in town, look at several measures, and put the application in. If Weston and Sampson did all the homework and permitting they would like to be awarded the job from the town. DOER application is available at the meeting. He had samples of cost savings for other towns.

He said Weston and Sampson saved Wenham some funds with no cost to the town; they did some work at the Hamilton Wenham High School. The street lights in town were discussed, if the town owns the lights, it's worthwhile; if the town doesn't own the lights the savings are not that significant. If you have a project with National Grid, they'll finance it for you if you don't have the funds immediately for the work.

T. Arsenian, spoke about polluting the night sky, with street lights, he said you'd want to be sure that the public and neighbors are aware and in favor.

Commissioner Sena questioned how Rockport could take ownership of some of these lights. With flood lights, high school, fire station, town buildings, etc. with flood lights, the town pays rent to National Grid. It was recommended that Doug Wagner, from National Grid, is knowledgeable and should be contacted about street lighting.

Water and wastewater areas can be put on the grant (\$100,000). Weston and Sampson would want to do the work. Bill Ellis said with DOER if you identify that the funds are for energy savings, it doesn't go through the competitive bid laws. It's got to be water/wastewater and must be for energy.

Commissioner Sena said everything should be submitted on the grant now that could potentially save funds. Then we can focus on the street lighting with National Grid. He recommends having a discussion with Doug Wagner to keep the energy momentum going.

T. Arsenian said the Planning Board should be kept informed on the progress of these initiatives, they'd be interested.

Bill Ellis said the low lift application is done, so they could start working on this new one.

DOER covers water and wastewater and National Grid covers anything else.

Bearskin Neck Seawall Repair Project by U.S. Army Corp of Engineers: Plans are in the preliminary phases; the backside is falling into the water. J. Parisi stated that 18 ton stones are coming from Rhode Island and Connecticut. There is a Right of Entry (ROE) document for the Board of Selectmen to sign requesting the areas of staging during the work. The timeframe is starting this fall (late) and done by late next Spring. This goes out to bid in April/May.

City Hall Systems Update: Director Parisi said they are moving forward with the website; a flyer is going out with tax bills explaining it to residents.

Vote of support on DPW Articles for Town Meeting: STM: Articles C through R are DPW articles. H is Nat'l Grid utility easement for Bedrock Well, Article J is \$45,000 different funds to combine for fire station combined for roof. Article K is \$780,000, Article M is \$150,000, 75% of project costs from FEMA Granite Pier repairs, Article N and O are for older Granite Pier project. R is the Ramsden easement for sewer connection.

Commissioner Reed moved to support Articles C through P on the STM, seconded by Commissioner Sena, Vote: 2-0.

Commissioner Reed moved to approve Article A on ATM, seconded by Commissioner Sena, Vote: 2-0.

Commissioner Reed moved to approve Article R on ATM, (swap shop/metal pile), seconded by Commissioner Sena, Vote: 0-2, motion not approved.

#### **8:45 PM Ongoing Capital Projects**

I&I Elimination Project – Subarea 6 Sewer Lining & Repairs: we are moving forward with sewer line, south of Broadway, there will be additional gravity lines that go to the Dock Square Pump Station.

#### **8:55 PM Other Issues of Discussion**

- Community House Facilities Manager – there are nine applicants and interviews will be held.
- Commissioner Reed said he has some concerns and questions about the town's new website; Virtual Town Hall is the vendor. Commissioner Reed said he would like some input on what information is on the webpage for the DPW. He said he will contact the Town Administrator to see how this will come together and when it is going on-line. He questioned who will maintain a Facebook page for the DPW.

#### **Tickler List**

Sewer use regulations

Community House Facilities Manager

Energy efficiency

Resign of Transfer Station including single stream recycling

DPW barn, funding request was shelved, building study to be completed

9:45 PM Commissioner Reed moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Sena, Vote: 2-0